

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: IMP0183

McIntyre, Margaret Edgeworth

(1886 - 1948)

Born 28 November, 1886, Maitland New South Wales Australia

Died 2 September, 1948, Quirindi New South Wales Australia

Occupation Community worker, Politician

Summary

Margaret McIntyre was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (Civil) for services to education on 1 January 1948. She was the first woman Member of Parliament in Tasmania and was killed in an air crash three months after being elected to the Legislative Council seat of Cornwall as an independent.

Details

The daughter of Tannatt William Edgeworth and Caroline Martha David, Margaret McIntyre was educated by her mother and a governess. She attended the University of Sydney and in 1907 graduated with a Bachelor of Arts. She married William Keverall McIntyre in 1908 and moved to Tasmania. They had four children.

Margaret McIntyre became involved with community work – especially helping women develop a sense of self-worth. She was state commissioner of the Girl Guides (1940-1948), and vice-president of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) and the Anzac Hostel Women's League of Remembrance. McIntyre became the first northern president of the Women Graduates' Association, served on the board of the Queen Victoria Hospital, the Community Association Council and the ABC advisory committee.

Involved with the Launceston Progressive Education Group and the establishment of Brooks Community School, McIntyre established a youth drama group and was president and producer of the Launceston Players.

Awarded an OBE on 1 January 1948 for services to education, in that year McIntyre also became the first woman in Tasmanian Parliament when she was elected to represent the people of the electorate of Cornwall in the Legislative Council. Three months after being elected she died in an air-crash whilst returning from a National Council of Women Conference.

Published resources

Resource Section

McIntyre, Margaret Edgeworth (1886-1948), Ferrall, R.A., 2006,
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A150746b.htm>

Margaret Edgeworth McIntyre,

http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/csr/information_and_resources/significant_tasmanian_women/significant_tasmanian_women

Edited Book

200 Australian Women: A Redress Anthology, Radi, Heather, 1988

Resource

Guide to the Papers of the David Family, National Library of Australia,
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-340662829/findingaid>

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Site Exhibition

Faith, Hope and Charity Australian Women and Imperial Honours: 1901-1989, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2003,

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html>

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

Book

No ordinary lives: pioneering women in Australian politics, Jenkins, Cathy, 2008

Archival resources

National Library of Australia

[\[Biographical cuttings on Margaret McIntyre, politician, containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals\]](#)

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

[Papers of the David family, 1823-1992 \[manuscript\]](#)

Author Details

Anne Heywood

Created 18 October 2002

Last modified 13 March 2019